

Message Text

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1962

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ECOSOC

SUBJECT: 1978 SUMMER ECOSOC: ITEM 20, NATURAL RESOURCES:

DRAFT RESOLUTION ON U.N. CONFERENCE ON NEW AND RENEWABLE SOURCES OF ENERGY

1. INCLUDED IN THIS MESSAGE IS THE TEXT OF DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THE PROPOSED U.N. CONFERENCE ON NEW AND RENEWABLE SOURCES OF ENERGY. TEXT WAS PASSED ON BY ITS ORIGINATOR, CNRET DIRECTOR BAUM, WHO IS LOOKING FOR COSPONSORS. DELOFF INFORMALLY SUGGESTED TO BAUM THAT LISTING IN OPERATIVE PARA 3 MIGHT BETTER BE ILLUSTRATIVE AND NOT EXHAUSTIVE. DELEGATION ASSUMES THAT IF BALANCED GROUP IS PUT TOGETHER, WE SHOULD JOIN IN COSPONSORSHIP OF TEXT. PLEAS ADVISE.

2. AS OF NOW, ONLY OPEN CRITISM ON PROPOSAL HAS COME . FROM EASTERN BLOC. IN DEBATE ON ITEM, HUNGARIA DEL EXPLAINED THAT HUNGARY WAS POOR IN NATURAL RESOURCES, MUST DEPEND ON ITS OWN LOW GRADE COAL PRODUCTION, AND THEREFORE IS INTERESTED IN RESOURCE FOR NEW AND RENEWABLE SOURCES OF ENERGY. HOWEVER TOW YEARS LEAD TIME TO PROPOSE FOR A CONFERENCE IS TOO LONG. WE SHOULD USE CURRENT MECHANISMS SUCH AS THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE AS WELL AS THE COMMITTEE ON APPLIED SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. ACCORDING TO BAUM, HOWEVER, ALGERIA AND NIGERIA HAVE ALSO EXPRESSED SOME NEGATIVE VIEWS. WEO'S ARE ALL FAVORABLE.

3. DELEGATION PLANS TO DISCRETELY SOUND OUT OPEC AND NON-OPEC MEMBERS OF 77 ON CONFERENCE PROJECT, AND ENCOURAGE

THEIR SUPPORT.

4. TEXT IS AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT: THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, COGNIZANT OF THE IMPORTANCE OF ENSURING THE AVAILABILITY OF ADEQUATE ENERGY SUPPLIES TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTINUED ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT,
- RECOGNIZING THAT THE REMAINING DECADES OF THIS CENTURY REPRESENT A PERIOD OF TRANSITION FROM A WORLD ECONOMY LARGELY BASED ON PETROLEUM TO ONE FOUNDED MORE UPON ALTERNATIVE, NEW AND RENEWABLE SOURCES,
- AWARE OF THE LONG LEAD TIMES AND HEAVY INVESTMENTS REQUIRED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND HARNESSING OF ALTERNATIVE NEW SOURCES OF ENERGY,
- CONCERNED WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF THE DEPLETION OF THE NON-RENEWABLE ENERGY BASE DUE TO AN OVER-RELiance OF THESE RESOURCES,
- CONSCIOUS OF THE NEED TO DEVELOP LOCAL ENERGY SOURCES IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, BEARING IN MIND THE PARTICULAR REQUIREMENTS OF RURAL POPULATIONS,
- CONSIDERING THE POTENTIAL ROLE OF NEW AND RENEWABLE SOURCES OF ENERGY IN MEETING LONG-TERM REQUIREMENTS AND THE NEED TO MORE CONCRETELY ASSESS THEIR PRESENT STATUS AND FUTURE PROSPECTS,
- RECALLING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2119 (LXIII) AND THE PIONEERING EFFORT OF THE FIRST UNITED
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NATIONS CONFERENCE ON NEW SOURCES OF ENERGY HELD AT ROME IN 1961, BEARING IN MIND THAT MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS HAVE TAKEN PLACE DURING THE INTERVENING 20 YEARS SINCE THAT CONFERENCE,
1. TAKES NOTE OF THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE FEASIBILITY OF HOLDING AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NEW AND RENEWABLE SOURCES OF ENERGY;
2. DECIDES, IN THE LIGHT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND IN RECOGNITION OF THE URGENT NEED TO DEVELOP ALTERNATIVE, NEW AND RENEWABLE SOURCES WITHIN THIS CENTURY BEFORE NON-RENEWABLE ENERGY SUPPLIES BEGIN TO DWINDLE, TO CONVENE A UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON NEW AND RENEWABLE SOURCES OF ENERGY IN 1981;
3. AGREES WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S RECOMMENDATIONS THAT THE CONFERENCE DEAL WITH SOLAR AND WIND POWER, BIOGAS, OIL SHALE AND TAR SANDS, TIDAL AND WIND POWER, NON-COMMERCIAL ENERGY (E.G. PEAT, WOOD AND CHARCOAL), MICRO HYDROPOWER AND FUSION;
4. FURTHER DECIDES THAT THE CONFERENCE SHOULD BE ACTION-ORIENTED WITH A VIEW TO IDENTIFYING POSSIBLE APPROACHES TO STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION IN NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE UNITED

NATIONS SYSTEM DURING THE 1980'S, DIRECTED PARTICULARLY TOWARDS THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THIS FIELD;

5. REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, IN FULL CO-OPERATION WITH THE DRAWING UPON THE CAPABILITIES OF ALL THE CONCERNED ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM, INCLUDING THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS, THE WORLD BANK AND THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY, TO COMMENCE CONSULTATIONS AND PREPARATIONS FOR ORGANIZING THE CONFERENCE AND ITS PREPARATORY WORK ALONG THE LINES SUGGESTED IN HIS REPORT TO THE COUNCIL AT ITS SECOND REGULAR SESSION IN 1978;

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6. RECOMMENDS THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY GIVE FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION TO THE PROVISION OF THE RESOURCES REQUIRED TO ENABLE THE CONVENING OF THE CONFERENCE;

7. FURTHER REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO REPORT TO ITS FIRST REGULAR SESSION IN 1979 ON THE PROGRESS OF PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE AND ON ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS RELATED THERETO AND TO REPORT THEREAFTER TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AT ITS SIXTH SESSION IN THE SPRING OF 1979;

8. INVITES ALL GOVERNMENTS, OTHER INTERNATIONAL, INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO CO-OPERATE WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL IN THE CONVENING OF AND THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE TO THE GREATEST EXTENT POSSIBLE.

NOTE: SINCE DRAFTING OF ABOVE, POLAND AND USSR HAVE ALSO

EXPRESSED DOUBTS ON CONFERENCE IN DEBATE ON NATURAL
RESOURCES ITEM. GENERAL THEME IS THAT FEW OF DIVERSE
RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES ARE OF INTEREST TO ALL, AND THAT
BILATERAL OR REGIONAL EXPERTS CONSULTATIONS ARE MORE
APPROPRIATE. VANDEN HEUVEL

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